

In the Claims:

1-8. (cancelled)

1 9. A PDC insert comprising:

2 a. a plug section;

3 b. a pedestal section atop the plug section, and wherein the pedestal section has
4 a top and a side wall, the side wall having a frustoconical bevel surface
5 thereon; ~~and~~

6 c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section; and

7 d. a first convex curved surface on the side wall above the frustoconical bevel
8 surface and a second convex curved surface on the side wall below the
9 frustoconical bevel surface.

10. (cancelled)

1 11. (original) The insert of claim 9, wherein the insert defines an axis and further
2 wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the bevel defines an angle
3 to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.

12. A PDC insert comprising:

a. a plug section;

- b. a pedestal section atop the plug section and having a circular, flat top and a flat bevel surface forming a chord across the top; ~~and~~
- c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section, wherein the insert defines an axis and further wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the flat bevel surface defines an angle to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.

13. (cancelled)

14. (new) A PDC insert comprising:

- a. a plug section;
- b. a pedestal section atop the plug section, and wherein the pedestal section has a top and a side wall, the side wall having a frustoconical bevel surface thereon; and
- c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section, wherein the insert defines an axis and further wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the bevel defines an angle to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.